CONFIDENTIAL

Executive Committee No.50
January 1953

M I N U T E S
of the

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
of the
WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Lucknow, India
December 29, 30 and 31, 1952
and January 8th, 1953

C O N T E N T S

Administrative Committee of Department of I.C.A. . . . 11
Advisory Commission on the Theme of 2nd Assembly . . . 3,4
Allocation of Seats 3
Assembly Appointments . . . . . 3, App.I
Assembly Documents 4
Attendance 1
Basis 2,6
Conference of U.S.A. Member Churches 9
Constitution 2
Consultants 2
Dates of Meetings 14
Ecumenical History 9
Ecumenical Institute 9
Executive Committee Report 2
Faith and Order 2,6
Finance 7
Headquarters W.C.C. 10
Hungarian Churches 12
Inter-Church Aid Department and I.M.C. 11
Inter-Church Aid Department and Service to Refugees . 7,11,8
Minutes 1
Place of Assembly 3
Preparatory Commissions . . . . . 4, App.I
Presiding Officers 3
Programme and arrangements for Central Committee . . . 1
Second Assembly 2,3,4,8
South America (Colombia) 6
Staff 10
Structure and Functioning 4
Sub-Committees 1

Executive Committee No.50

January 1953

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Minutes of the Meetings of the Executive Committee, on December 29, 30 and 31, 1952 and on January 8th, 1953 Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, India

Note: These minutes should be read in the light of the decisions taken by the Central Committee at its Lucknow meeting, which modified or completed the actions of the Executive Committee at several points.

1. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Bishop of Chichester. During its meeting the Committee joined in worship with the members of the Study Conference in session at the College.

2. Attendance : The Bishop of Chichester, chairman
Dr.Franklin Clark Fry, vice-chairman

Presidents: The Archbishop of Thyateira
Pastor Marc Boegner
Miss Sarah Chakko
Bishop Bromley Oxnam

Members: Archbishop Y.Brilioth
Dr.Leslie E.Cooke
Dr.Kenneth Grubb
Metropolitan Juhanon Mar Thoma
Dr.Martin Niemöller
Mrs. Leslie Swain

Consultants: Dr.Norman Goodall
The Rev. David Say

Staff: The Rev.Robert S.Bilheimer
Dr.Nils Ehrenström
Dr.Robert C.Mackie
The Rev.D.T.Niles
Dr.O.F.Nolde
Mr.Frank Northam
Dr.W.A.Visser't Hooft
Dr. R.B. Manikam

3. Minutes : The minutes of the Executive meeting held in Nykøbing, Denmark, in August 1952 were approved as circulated .

4. Programme and arrangements for the Central Committee

(a) A schedule for the Central Committee was presented by the General Secretary and adopted.

(b) Concerning sub-committees, it was

AGREED that the following sub-committees and chairmen should be recommended to the Central Committee :

Assembly : Dr.Payne ;
Finance : Bishop Oxnam ;
Nominations : Dr.Horton ;
Reference Committee for Departmental Reports : Mr.Paul.

(c) Upon the recommendation of the General Secretary it was

AGREED that the following be recommended to the Central Committee as consultants :

Prof.S.Adinarayan, Rev.Russell Chandran, Rev.Dehqani-Tafti, Dr.V.E.Devadutt, Dr.P.Devanandan, Rev.John Fleming, Miss A.L. Fransz, Dr.G.Garcia, Dr.John Kellas, Dr.James Kellock, Rev.P.D. Latuihamallo, Rev.U.Maung U., Father Philippos, Dr.A.Ralla Ram, Rev.Chandu Ray, Dr.Tadakazu Uwoki and Dr.H.P.Van Dusen.

(d) It was

AGREED to recommend to the Central Committee that the wives of members be welcomed as visitors.

5. Executive Committee Report:

The Chairman and General Secretary presented a draft report of the Executive Committee to the Central Committee, which after full discussion and amendment was adopted as the report of the Executive Committee to the Central Committee . (NOTE: This report is not appended to these Minutes, since it will be appended to the Minutes of the Central Committee

6. New Year's Message

The General Secretary reported that the Press office desired a New Year's message for general release, and after discussion a message prepared by Bishop Oxnam was forwarded to the Press office for this purpose .

7. Revision of the Constitution

The General Secretary reported that two points regarding a possible revision of the Constitution had been raised, namely concerning Article One on the Basis and Article Six on Faith and Order. The procedural question should be decided as to how an exact formulation of recommended actions should be brought before the Central Committee, inasmuch as this was the last opportunity prior to the Assembly to consider constitutional revisions. After discussion it was

AGREED to refer this matter to the members of the Structure and Functioning Committee present , together with Archbishop Brilioth.

8. Second Assembly

The General Secretary reported that full consideration would be given to the plans for the second Assembly by the Central Committee, but that certain items (as follows) should receive preliminary consideration by the Executive Committee :

(a) Final Invitation. After discussion it was

AGREED that the final invitation should be forwarded to the member Churches immediately following the Central Committee meeting in a form to be determined by the Bishop of Chichester with others whom we may consult, and calling attention among other things to the composition of the delegations as regards lay and clerical members and as regards the participation of men and women .

(b) The General Secretary reported that no adverse reactions to the allocation of seats determined by the Nykøbing meeting of the Executive Committee had been received , and it was therefore

AGREED to confirm the proposal concerning the allocation of seats as worked out by the Nykøbing meeting of the Executive Committee .

(c) Presiding Officers. Discussion revealed a difference of opinion concerning the proposal appearing in the work-book for the second Assembly regarding presiding officers at the Assembly, and the matter was left for further discussion and decision in the Central Committee .

(d) Place of the Assembly. Bishop Oxnam, Dr.Fry and Dr.Nolde reported on the situation regarding entry of delegates into the United States, and after a thorough discussion it was

AGREED that the Bishop of Chichester should report to the Central Committee that the officers of the Executive Committee continue to be vigilant concerning the entry of delegates into the United States, and that it is not anticipated that serious obstacles will arise .

AGREED to appoint the following Committee with power to determine whether the conditions laid down by the Central Committee are met and to take appropriate action if it should appear that the Assembly should not be held in the United States; The Bishop of Chichester, Dr.Fry and Bishop Oxnam, Dr.Boegner, Miss Chakko, Dr.Visser't Hooft .

(e) Assembly Appointments. It was

AGREED to appoint the following as members of the Worship Committee for the Assembly: Dr.E.A.Payne,chairman; Dr.Hanns Lilje, the Rev.Oliver Tomkins, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Dr.Eugene Blake,Father Georges Florovsky, the Rev.Russell Chandran; with Dr.Harold Bosley,consultant.

AGREED to appoint Mr.Charles Parlin as Chairman of the Assembly Press Committee on the understanding that if Mr.Parlin is unable to accept Mr.Charles P.Taft be appointed .

The General Secretary reported the need to secure an additional Anglican member for the Advisory Commission on the Theme of the Second Assembly and after discussion it was

AGREED to recommend to the Central Committee the addition of another Anglican member to the Advisory Commission to be chosen by the Bishop of Chichester, in consultation with the Bishop of London and Dr. C.H. Dodd.

Upon the recommendation of the Study Department, presented by Dr. Ehrenström, it was

AGREED to add members to the Preparatory Commissions on Evangelism, Social Questions and International Affairs as follows:

Evangelism: The Rev. T. Allan (U.K.), Prof. T.E. Jessop (U.K.), Canon E.R. Wickham (U.K.), Dr. Engström (U.S.A.), Dr. Rendtorff (Germany), Mrs. Rena Karefa-Smart (Nigeria);
Social Questions: Prof. Walter Bauer (Germany), Mr. Angus Maude (U.K.);
International Affairs: Prof. Grewe (Germany).

AGREED that substitutes and other members of the Preparatory Commissions up to a total of 20 each may be appointed by the Chairman of the Executive Committee, the Chairman of the Study Department Committee and the Chairman of the Commission concerned, all such appointments subsequently to be confirmed by the Executive Committee.

Note: In a later session of the Executive Committee a list of additional appointments was approved. (Appendix I)

(f) Assembly Documents

In a brief discussion it was suggested that the statements of the Central Committee and Executive Committee on international affairs be printed in a separate document for the use of Assembly delegates.

It was suggested that the report of the World Council to the Assembly be approximately equal in length to the booklet "The Ten Formative Years" prepared for Amsterdam.

AGREED to issue a call to church members to support the Assembly in prayer at Whitsuntide 1954.

9. Structure and Functioning:

Dr. Cooke presented the report of the Structure and Functioning Committee prepared for the Central Committee. (Note: This report is not appended to these Minutes, since it will appear in the Minutes of the Central Committee meeting.) In a thorough discussion of the Structure and Functioning Committee's report, the following points were brought to the further attention of the Structure and Functioning Committee:

Question was raised as to whether the Deputy General Secretary should also be head of one of the Divisions, on the grounds that it might detract from his duties as Deputy General Secretary, and might give undue advantage to the Division with which he was connected.

It was indicated that two charts are needed, one showing the lines of responsibility as between persons, and the other lines of responsibility as between committees.

In regard to B. Praesidium, p.4, there was considerable discussion concerning point B.2, as to the desirability of re-electing Presidents to succeed themselves, and it was in general agreed that the matter should be discussed at the Central Committee meeting. In addition, it was suggested that item B.3 should read: " . . . until that point in the Assembly at which the successor is elected." Finally, question was raised whether B.4 means "attend" or "attend and address."
For purposes of discussion in the Central Committee, it was agreed that Dr. Cooke should indicate disagreement concerning the retirement of Presidents, and call upon Bishop Oxnam, and that for purposes of debate the following formula should be put before the Central Committee: "All Presidents retire at each Assembly, but are eligible for re-election."

In regard to C, Central Committee, pp.4-5, it was suggested that since the recommendations give increased weight to the Central Committee attention should be paid to a form of order and procedure for the Central Committee.

In regard to A, Direct Communication, pp. 7-8, question was raised as to whether the principle of direct relations with member Churches took precedence over the principle of Woudschoten policy in regard to relations with National Councils. It was suggested that the recommendations of the Committee should clarify this matter.

In regard to C, Other Designated Ecumenical Organisations, p.10, it was agreed that the last sentence should read: "Relations <u>with these four organisations</u>," etc.

In regard to A, Division of Studies, p.11, it was suggested that the chart should attempt to show that Faith and Order is not wholly a Study department.

Various questions were raised especially in regard to the relationship between the Department of Information and the Department of Finance and Administration, particularly as these appear on the chart, and it was urged that an attempt be made to present the true relationships more adequately in a future chart.

In regard to F, Department of Information, p.12, question was raised as to the duties of the Director of the Department, and as to his powers over all publications. Long discussion indicated the desirability of co-ordination of the technical aspects of publications through the office of the Director of the Department of Information, but also indicated that this office should have no power over the content of publications.

In regard to V, 2 (c), p. 14, it was suggested that the two members of the Executive Committee of the C.C.I.A. should be drawn from the membership of the Central Committee, and that the wording of this provision should make this clear.

Attention was called to the fact that, whereas on p.3 reference is made to the Far Eastern office, no reference to the Far Eastern office appears in the latter pages of the report in any way parallel to the references in those pages to the New York and London offices, and it was suggested that some reference, even though necessarily inconclusive at this stage, should be made at this point to the Far Eastern office.

After this discussion it was

AGREED to approve the report of the Committee on Structure and Functioning as a whole, calling the attention of the Committee to the points indicated above, and asking the present Committee to continue with its work, with power to co-opt such members as in its judgment may be necessary.

10. Faith and Order

Archbishop Brilioth reported briefly on the Lund Conference, and particularly on the constitution for the Faith and Order Commission approved by the Lund Conference, to be adopted by the Central Committee. After discussion it was

AGREED to recommend the approval of the constitution of the Commission on Faith and Order as recommended by the Lund Conference, with the exception of the following portion of para 35: "... but no amendment shall be valid which contravenes the provisions of para 4 above, or of this paragraph"; this section to be left to the decision of the second Assembly on the grounds that it is a provision which would bind the Assembly, and cannot therefore be acted upon by the Central Committee; and further in view of the difficulties involved in establishing unalterable principles in the constitution to ask the Commission on Faith and Order to reconsider this phrase.

11. Basis

The Chairman of the meeting welcomed the Chairman of the sub-committee on the Basis, Dr. Horton, who presented the report of his Committee to be presented to the Central Committee. A discussion followed and suggestions were made to the sub-committee concerning the status of the statement on the Basis, and other matters.

12. Situation in Colombia

The General Secretary reported on a letter from the Norwegian Institute for Inter-church relations concerning the persecutions in Colombia.
Dr. Nolde briefly reviewed the situation in that country, stating that evidence had been clear that there is serious violation of the freedom of Protestant groups, but that more precise information is needed, and that if any concerted approach to redress the wrongs is to be made additional resources in money and staff must be found.

After discussion it was

AGREED that the officers of the C.C.I.A. suggest to the Central Committee that it adopt an appropriate resolution on the situation in Colombia.

3. Finance

Bishop Oxnam presented the report of the Finance Sub-Committee. He explained that, in view of the fact that the main finance business will come before the full Finance Committee in the next few days, the Finance Sub-Committee decided to give preliminary consideration to all questions on the agenda, but to bring recommendations to the Executive Committee only on those requiring action by the Executive Committee.

A. 1952 Accounts - General Budget

The 1952 accounts are expected to show a surplus of a few thousand dollars, and the Finance Sub-Committee will recommend to the Finance Committee that that surplus should be used:

i) to cover the deficit, at present estimated at about $1,000, on the Ecumenical Press Service for 1952;

ii) to cover deficit, at present estimated at some $200, on the Lund Conference;

iii) to cover the special grant of $ 2,500 in 1952 to the C.C.I.A.;

iv) to cover as far as possible that half of the expenses of the Lucknow Central Committee which will otherwise, under a previous action, be charged to the 1953 accounts.

B. General Budget - 1953

The suggested budget for 1953 to be submitted to the Finance Committee forecasts revenue sufficient to cover the budgeted expenditure, and therefore gives rise to no problems.

C. Interest on Investments

The Finance Sub-Committee will recommend to the Finance Committee that interest on investments against the reserve for Bossey should be credited to that reserve, and that the allocation of interest on investments against the Assembly and General reserves shall be considered at a later date. It will further be recommended that interest should first be used to write off brokerage and other costs concerning the purchase of investments, and to write their book value down to par value.

D. Department of Inter-Church Aid - Service Programme 1952

The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that the latest figures indicated that the 1952 Service Programme would end without deficit, and might show a small surplus.

E. Department of Inter-Church Aid - Service Programme 1953

The Executive Committee meeting at Nykøbing last August authorised the Director of the Department to raise funds for the 1953 budget on the basis of approximately the same level as the 1952 budget. After receiving a report on the work of the Department, the Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee:

i) that a Service Programme of $650,000 be authorised for the Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees for 1953.

It will be recalled that the approval of the Service Programme is within the competence of the Executive Committee, whereas the Administrative Budget of the Department is submitted through the Finance Committee to the Central Committee. The Administrative Budget for 1953 amounts to $80,000, is unchanged from 1952, and is included within the above total of $650,000.

At the recommendation of the Administrative Committee of the Department, the Finance Sub-Committee will also recommend to the Finance Committee that:

ii) the Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees be authorised to incur further expense up to $10,000 in 1953 if it is decided in collaboration with the I.M.C. to go forward with plans for the co-ordination and ecumenical presentation of emergency inter-Church aid and relief needs in all countries outside Europe in which both the I.M.C. and the W.C.C. have interests and responsibilities.

iii) that the Director be authorised in consultation with the I.M.C. to seek to raise funds for the support of this work if started.

iv) that approval be given for the expenses in 1953 to be charged to the Administrative Reserves of the Department if other resources are not secured.

F. 1954 Budgets

The Finance Sub-Committee will suggest to the Finance Committee that the Central Committee be asked to authorise the Executive to approve budgets for 1954 within the framework of the present programme.

G. Post-Evanston Budgets

The Finance Sub-Committee wished to discuss this matter but did not have time to do so. Concern was expressed as to whether the World Council has now reached a fixed income level in view of the fact that certain aspects of the work may need increased resources: the budgets of Bossey when the support available from the Rockefeller Fund is reduced, and of the C.C.I.A., and the implications of the Report on Structure and Functioning (particularly with reference to the filling of vacant Associate General Secretary posts and the creation of an Information Department), were specifically mentioned in this connection.

H. Budget for Second Assembly, 1954

No change in the total budget adopted by the Executive at Lambeth is suggested, but two modifications will be proposed, namely:

i) That expenditure of up to $20,000 if necessary, instead of the $10,000 in the present budget, be authorised for the Preparatory Study meetings in the summer of 1953, this increased expenditure to be covered from underspending on the budget for the Advisory Commission on the main theme;

ii) that approval be granted for the expenditure, from the provision of $34,500 in the budget for subsidising the travel of delegates, of up to $5,000 for the travel of consultants to the Assembly.

J. Salaries and Personnel Questions

The Finance Sub-Committee recommends to the Executive Committee:

i) that salary increases of S.fr. 1,200 p.a. be granted to three nominated Secretaries;

ii) that authority be given for travel expenses for home leave to be paid for two nominated Secretaries and families;

iii) that authority be granted for a dependent relative's allowance to be granted to one nominated staff member if, on investigation, found by the Director of Finance and Administration to be justified;

iv) that approval be granted for salary increases to two Office Staff members.

A number of other salary increases will be received by Office Staff members under the rules adopted by the Central Committee at its meeting at Rolle.

K. Reconstruction and Transformation of the Château de Bossey

The report on this matter will be presented to the Finance Committee, but the Finance Sub-Committee was informed that the position reported at Nykøbing was unchanged in that, on present information, all expenses can be paid and some S.fr. 35,000 will remain available for a maintenance reserve.

L. Budget of Conference of U.S.A. Member Churches

The Finance Sub-Committee will recommend to the Finance Committee that a maximum of $60,000 be set, as for 1952, for the 1953 budget of the Conference of U.S.A. member Churches. The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that a proposal may be brought before the Finance Committee for a supplementary budget for the Conference of U.S.A. member Churches for Promotion and Publicity in connection with the Evanston Assembly.

M. Publication of Ecumenical History

The Finance Sub-Committee was asked to recommend approval of an agreement with the S.P.C.K. for the publication of the Ecumenical History. Under that agreement, the World Council might be involved in a loss of £453, or some $1,350; that expense might be incurred if not more than 4,000 copies were sold, but would be reduced if more than 4,000 copies were sold. It was recognised that the World Council had accepted responsibility for securing publication of the history. The Finance Sub-Committee was inclined to recommend acceptance of the proposal, but asked for additional information.

N. Purchase of 15 Route de Malagnou

The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that it might be possible to purchase a part of the property 15 route de Malagnou, adjoining the present headquarters of the World Council, the other part being required by the city of Geneva as a part of the site for a planned new museum. It was felt that it would be highly desirable to seize this opportunity in view of the inadequacy of the present property, both as regards accommodation for the staff needed in the immediate future and as regards the small frontage at present held on the main road, route de Malagnou, and therefore the suitability of the property for future development. No resources were, however, available for the purchase, and no specific proposal was available since it had not been possible to determine the intentions of the city of Geneva authorities. It has been determined that sufficient funds to purchase the property could probably be raised by increasing the mortgage on the headquarters properties.

The Finance Sub-Committee was inclined to recommend, in view of the fact that it might not be possible to delay a decision on such a matter until a later meeting:

i) that it should be decided to raise the maximum mortgage loan on the headquarters properties if needed for the purchase of 15 route de Malagnou;

ii) that an ad-hoc Committee be formed consisting of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee, Dr. Cooke and Dr. Koechlin, and that that Committee be given power to approve the purchase of 15 route de Malagnou or a part thereof, if in their judgment desirable terms of purchase can be negotiated.

The Executive Committee, after brief discussion,

AGREED:

i) to receive the report of the Finance Sub-Committee,

ii) to adopt the recommendations set out under paras E (i) and J (i-iv) above.

14. Staff

The General Secretary reported that, pursuant to the action of the Executive Committee at Nykøbing in August 1952, the Rev. D.T. Niles had accepted the position of Secretary for Evangelism on a half-time basis until the second Assembly, it being an open question as to his service thereafter.

The General Secretary reported that in accordance with the action taken at Nykøbing Pastor Hans Harms had been invited to join the Study Department and that he had accepted this invitation. It was decided to confirm this appointment.

Dr. Ehrenström reported that Dr. Ralph Hyslop, Professor of Christian Doctrine at the Pacific School of Religion, was available on Sabbatical leave for service in the Study Department, and after discussion it was

AGREED to welcome Dr. Hyslop for service on the Study Department staff for the period June 1953 - March 1954.

Dr. Mackie reported that after consultation with Dr. Nolde and Dr. Rees the Administrative Committee of the Department of Inter-church Aid proposed that Dr. Rees should be fully assigned to the service of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, while retaining his present employment status, and being free to continue to act as Advisor on Refugee Affairs to the Department. At the same time, the Department would make a grant from the Service to Refugees section of its Service Programme in return for all the services rendered to the Department by the C.C.I.A. This grant would amount to the sum required for Dr. Rees' salary, travel and secretarial facilities.

It was

decided to approve the proposed arrangement between the C.C.I.A. and the Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees for the transfer of Dr. Elfan Rees and his office from the Department to the C.C.I.A., in accordance with the terms agreed upon by the Chairman of the C.C.I.A. and the Director of the Department.

On the proposition of the Administrative Committee of the Department of Inter-Church Aid, it was

decided that Dr. Edgar Chandler should become Associate Director of the Department, and the Rev. R.B. Tillman Administrative Secretary.

5. Co-operation with the I.M.C. in relation to Emergency Inter-Church Aid and Relief.

Dr. Mackie reported that after the last meeting of the Executive Committee in Denmark he had discussed this matter with the staff of the I.M.C. in New York. The I.M.C. staff had suggested that the Department of Inter-Church Aid might itself be the joint agency suggested in the memorandum coming from the joint Committee of the I.M.C. and the W.C.C. At a later date the Administrative Committee had submitted a plan of co-operation, in which the I.M.C. staff had suggested some helpful alterations, to which he was sure that the Administrative Committee would have no objection. These alterations were accepted. It was then decided to alter para 3,e, to read: "It shall only undertake any operation in its own name after full consultation with the national or local co-operative agency, where such exists, and with the full support of the I.M.C. and the W.C.C."

Finally, it was

decided to adopt the proposed plan as amended, subject to the concurrence of the International Missionary Council.

6. Administrative Committee of the Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees

It was

decided on the proposition of the retiring Administrative, and of the Committee on Structure and Functioning, that the Administrative Committee of the Department should be increased from 5 to 7 members, two of whom should be members of the Central Committee.

17. Letter from the Hungarian Churches

Bishop Peter was invited to attend the meeting in order to submit a letter from the Hungarian Churches to the World Council.

Bishop Peter's statement is summarised as follows:

We are sure that the importance of the role of the Hungarian Churches in the ecumenical movement and in our generation is fully recognised. A telegram has been received today from the Hungarian Churches wishing God-speed to the Central Committee. We want to witness to the fact that the World Council of Churches is a world council of Churches, and we also want to receive testimony that the World Council is our Council as well as yours. We have sent a letter to the World Council and another letter to Bishop Newbigin. The second letter reflects the thorough study of the Advisory Commission report in the Hungarian Churches, and the general acceptance by the Churches of this report. We hope that there will be further discussion of the Christian hope at the meeting of the Central Committee. We accept Chapter 3 as well as the others, but ask the member Churches to study this further. This acceptance of the Advisory Commission report is not without significance, especially as most of the Advisory Commission is Western in its membership. We are deeply grateful for the work of the Commission, and it is in this spirit that I am here now and that we prepare for the Assembly.

In the same spirit we have sent another letter to the World Council which expressed gratitude for the World Council, and also our attempt to be open-minded in hearing what other Churches say to us. At the same time, we try to pass on what we have learned. The Amsterdam declaration stated that war is contrary to the will of God. We hope that we can avoid one-sided statements and live up to the Amsterdam declaration, remembering that it is not by arms that the present situation can be resolved.

We believe that Chapter 4 of the Advisory Commission report is right - that the Kingdom of God means freedom, righteousness, peace, life and truth, and that we must serve these on earth. We cannot serve peace and do nothing in the present international situation. We must not regard war as inevitable, or look upon the arms race with a quiet conscience. We must stand for direct negotiations between the representatives of Great Powers, in order that the great outstanding issues may be settled.

Last night Dr. Boegner stated in a speech that most people believe that agreement between the Great Powers is essential. I therefore wish to draw your attention to the proposal of our Churches for a meeting of the representatives of the Great Powers. Sooner or later such a meeting will come about. The great question is whether the World Council of Churches will take part in preparation for it. If the World Council would do this, it would have a blessed influence on our church relations and on the negotiations also.

The Bishop of Chichester expressed the appreciation of the Committee for Bishop Peter's statement, and asked whether, remembering Bishop Bereczky's dissociation of himself from certain decisions of the Central Committee meeting at Rolle, there has been a more cordial feeling in the Hungarian Churches towards the World Council since that time.

Bishop Peter reported that this has been the case.

The Bishop of Chichester asked whether the Hungarian Churches are in close touch with other Churches in Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

Bishop Peter replied that there are very close relations with Churches in Czechoslovakia, but that relations are not so close with Churches in the other countries. Better relations will develop as the old feeling between the nations gradually diminishes.

Dr. Nolde stated that the letters from the Hungarian Churches, so far as they pertained to international affairs, referred to general matters but not to specific issues. Is there a position of the Churches in Hungary on Korean peace? Is there a position of the Churches in Hungary on the rejection of the Indian proposal on prisoners of war?

Bishop Peter replied that he had left Hungary two weeks before, and did not know the general feeling in Hungary. His own position was that the first form of the Indian proposal, calling for the international commission to supervise the return of prisoners of war, was right, but that the form of the second Indian proposal involved the danger of wasting time on the discussion of the prisoner-of-war issue. The difficulty was that the first proposal was not accepted by the U.S.A.

Dr. Nolde stated that there is a feeling in fifty nations that persistent demands for peace from the U.S.S.R. and others have not been accompanied by action, particularly in regard to specific issues. The questions of Germany, of disarmament, of China, and of any meeting of the five Powers, were cases in point. It is in the experience of the C.C.I.A. true that generalities regarding peace are misleading unless the underlying attitudes towards such specific issues are thoroughly examined. As Christians it is important to sit down and tell each other where we disagree and where the dangers are.

Bishop Peter said that he was not here for the purpose of defending Soviet policy. What Dr. Nolde had said should be thoroughly aired in any meeting of the five Powers. The general situation being what it is, however, it remains true that such a meeting is necessary.

Pastor Boegner expressed his appreciation of Bishop Peter's presence and the spirit of his comments, but said that Dr. Nolde's points must be faced. There is a fear in the West that Bishop Peter and his colleagues receive information from only one source. Although they may feel the same about us, we are nevertheless convinced that we have more freedom of information.

Bishop Peter replied that in regard to information it is clear that in such a world situation as ours there are things not known by both sides. There are things in the Eastern world which are not known in the West; the important Western church papers are followed and efforts are made to remain in contact with the West. In spite of this, one's own situation always influences one - on both sides. Yet we can remain in fellowship with one another in faith, and can try to supplement our facts and opinions as to what to do about them. We of course take Dr. Nolde's points seriously, but do not reply to them simply because we do not want to try to convince you regarding political and social systems. We want only to express our conviction that we cannot change the situation except by a meeting of the Great Powers.

Dr. Grubb commented that in reference to such a meeting of the Great Powers it would itself involve all the dangers pointed to by Dr. Nolde. In addition there is the problem of agenda, agreement upon the items and their order, all of which drives one back to previous discussions, previous disagreements and attitudes towards a range of specific issues.

Dr. Nolde commented that we are for direct negotiations and for a meeting of the Great Powers if there are present conditions favourable to success.

Dr. Niemoeller stated that he agreed with the letter of the Hungarian Synod, and that he had not been at ease since the Toronto declaration on Korea, because of the fact that the Korean war is not a police action in reality. We are on dangerous ground if we try to proceed on the basis of "right information", because no-one has right information; we cannot dissociate a lie from truth in modern propaganda. Mention has been made of our desire for peace with justice. This, however, is not always the choice. I prefer peace and injustice to war and injustice, and this is the situation we face in Germany. Our great concern must be to speak out for the best for human beings, and we should not be afraid to repeat ourselves on different occasions. It is not right to deal with these questions without both sides present. The C.C.I.A. is Western in its membership; it is better not to have a C.C.I.A. than to have one side absent.

In the light of this discussion a further paragraph on the discussion with the Hungarian Churches was added to the report of the Executive Committee to the Central Committee.

18. Dates of Meetings

It was

AGREED that the Executive Committee would meet on the following dates: August 5 - 9, 1953 (Bossey); February 2 - 5, 1954 (Germany); and August 10 - 11, 1954 (Evanston).

AGREED that the August 1953 meeting would be enlarged by adding substitutes for members unable to attend, after consultation with their Churches and with the Central Committee, and by inviting needed Chairmen of Assembly Committees.

EVANSTON ASSEMBLY -- PREPARATORY COMMISSIONS
Additional Appointments
(confirmed by the Executive Committee)

I. THE MAIN THEME

Central Committee Consultants:

Prof. G. Florovsky, U.S.A. (regular member)
President John Mackay, U.S.A. (regular member)
Rt. Rev. Lesslie Newbigin, India (regular member)

II. THE SUBSIDIARY TOPICS

1. Faith and Order

Central Committee Consultants:

Bishop Angus Dun, U.S.A. (regular member)
Prof. G. Florovsky, U.S.A. (regular member)
Metropolitan Juhanon, India (regular member)

2. Evangelism

Additional member:

Prof. Hwang, Formosa

Central Committee Consultants:

Dr. E.T. Dahlberg, U.S.A. (regular member)
Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, U.S.A.
Pasteur Pierre Maury, France
Bishop Moyes of Armidale, Australia (regular member)

3. Social Questions

Additional members:

Rev. John Garrett, Australia
Bishop John Peter, Hungary
Dr. A.M. Tambunan, Indonesia
Mr. M.M. Thomas, India

Central Committee Consultants:

Bishop A. Fjellbu, Norway
Rev. H.J. Lazarus, India
Rev. E.C. Urwin, United Kingdom

4. International Affairs

Vice-chairman:

Raja Maharaj Singh, India

Additional members:

Dr. Leimena, Indonesia (instead of Dr. Tambunan, transferred to the Commission on Social Questions)

Central Committee Consultants:

Dr. Kenneth G. Grubb, United Kingdom (regular member)
Prof. J.L. Hromadka, Czechoslovakia (regular member)
Rev. M. Kozaki, Japan

5. Inter-Group Relations:

Central Committee Consultants:

Dr. L.E. Cooke, United Kingdom
Bishop L. Dia, Philippine Islands
President Benjamin E. Mays, U.S.A. (regular member)

6. The Laity

Additional members:

Dr. Reinold Von Thadden, Germany

Central Committee Consultants:

Principal Sarah Chakko, India
Dr. Reinold Von Thadden, Germany (regular member)
Principal T.M. Taylor, United Kingdom